



Central Intelligence Agency
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

7 OCT 1985

NOTE FOR: DDCI

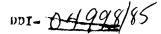
Attached is a token response to Matt Meselson's note.

Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachment: As stated



Central Intelligence Agency





Dr. Matthew Meselson
Department of Biochemistry
and Molecular Biology
Harvard University
7 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dr. Meselson:

Thank you for the article describing your investigations of bee feces. While there is little doubt that some yellow spots collected in Southeast Asia and alleged to have come from chemical weapons attack sites are in fact bee feces, the identification of trichothecene toxins in other environmental samples and in blood and tissues of victims cannot be denied. Our results have been independently confirmed in multiple laboratories both domestically and abroad. Therefore, on the basis of all the information available to the Intelligence Community, we stand firm in our belief that trichothecene toxins have been used in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

John N. McMahon
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Letter to Dr. Meselson		
Distribution: Orig - Addressee		
1 - DDCI		
1 - Executive Director		
1 - Executive Registry		
1 - DDI		
1 - ADDI		
1 - OSWR Chrono		
1 - OSWR Action Group		
1 - STD Chrono		
1 - LSB Chrono		
		STAT
OSWR/STD/LSB.	(2 October 85)	STAT